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TARDEC ASSOCIATE RECEIVES SECOND NAACP AWARD

WARREN, Mich. – Monday, July 10, 2006 – The U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center (TARDEC) announced that Gregory Chappelle will receive the 2006 National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Roy Wilkins Renown Service Award. Chappelle will accept the award for his educational outreach efforts with low-income middle school students from southeastern Michigan, and for his years of dedication to the U.S. Army's eCybermission program.

The NAACP Roy Wilkins Renown Service Award is granted annually to American military or civilian personnel who have distinguished themselves by contributing to military equal opportunity programs. Chappelle will receive his honors July 18 at the 97th NAACP Annual Convention in Washington, D.C.

This is Chappelle's second Roy Wilkins Award; receiving his first NAACP award in 2003 for his educational outreach efforts with middle school students, and for 10 years of service with the nation's Historically Black Colleges and Universities/Minority Institutions (HBCU/MI).

In 2005, Chappelle coached 8th grades students from Durfee Middle School, Detroit, Mich., to first place in the Northwest Regional eCybermission competition. The team also competed in the eCybermission National Finals in Washington, D.C., where they won \$26,000 for their project: *The reduction of pedestrian fatalities in the USA and Canada*.

"The environment that these students grow-up in is very tough," stated Chappelle. "It is extremely motivating to see them [students] grow when they are placed into an environment which allows them to be creative. It is rewarding to see that I have impacted their lives in a positive way, inspiring them to achieve their goals."

Last year Chappelle received citations from the State of Michigan and the City of Detroit for being an outstanding role model and educator for inner-city and low-income students in Detroit and southeastern Michigan. Since 2003, Chappelle's eCybermission students have won over \$60,000 in U.S. EE Savings Bonds.

In February 2005, Chappelle received his second U.S. Black Engineer of the Year Award for teaching 6th through 9th grade Detroit students' mathematics, chemistry, dentistry, physics, material and electrical engineering, and handwriting.



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Chappelle currently serves as TARDEC's HBCU/MI Liaison Officer, and is still involved with numerous outreach efforts. Over the past 16 years, Chappelle has made astounding contributions to the U.S. Army's HBCU/MI, Recruitment of Minorities and the eCybermission outreach programs. In 2003, Chappelle founded the Science and Math Teacher-Student Exchange Program between the U.S. and Canada.

TARDEC, part of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command (RDECOM), is headquartered at the Detroit Arsenal, Warren, Mich. It is the Nation's laboratory for advanced military automotive technology. TARDEC's mission is to research, develop, engineer, leverage and integrate advanced technology into ground systems and support equipment throughout the life cycle. Its technical staff leads research in ground vehicle survivability, mobility, intelligent systems, and maneuver support and sustainment.

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